

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 7, 15 and 16 to read as follows:

A1 1 1. (amended) A sealing system for a rotating machine having a stationary element
2 and a drive element rotationally connected to said stationary element, the sealing system
3 comprising:
4 a plate comprising a bearing surface, the plate being connected to one of said
5 drive element and said stationary element; and
6 a sealing assembly comprising a resilient bellows and a bearing surface, the
7 bellows having a plurality of corrugations and providing a force which causes the bearing
8 surface of the sealing assembly to bear on the bearing surface of the plate to form a
9 dynamic seal.

A2 1 7. (amended) The sealing system of claim 1, wherein said plate comprises
2 graphite which provides a sealing and lubricating layer to the dynamic seal.

A3 1 15. (amended) A sealing system for a rotating machine having a stationary
2 element and a drive element rotationally connected to said stationary element, the sealing
3 system comprising:
4 a drive plate comprising a bearing surface, the drive plate being rigidly connected
5 to said drive element;
6 a stationary plate comprising a bearing surface, the stationary plate being rigidly
7 connected to said stationary element; and
8 a sealing assembly comprising a resilient bellows having a plurality of
9 corrugations, a first bearing surface and a second bearing surface, the bellows providing

10 a force which causes the first bearing surface of the sealing assembly to bear on the
11 bearing surface of the drive plate forming a first dynamic seal and causes the second
12 bearing surface of the sealing assembly to bear on the bearing surface of the stationary
13 plate forming a second dynamic seal.

1 16. (Amended) A sealing system for a rotating machine having a stationary
2 element and a drive element rotationally connected to said stationary element, the sealing
3 system comprising:

4 a drive plate comprising graphite and a bearing surface, the drive plate being
5 rigidly connected to said drive element

6 a stationary plate comprising graphite and a bearing surface, the stationary plate
7 being rigidly connected to said stationary element;

8 a sealing assembly comprising a resilient corrugated bellows having a plurality
9 of corrugations and providing a force and having first and second collars, a first thrust
10 plate attached to the first collar and providing a first bearing surface, and a second thrust
11 plate attached to the second collar and providing a second bearing surface;

12 a first static sealing element, the first static sealing element being disposed within
13 a first gap provided between the first collar and the first thrust plate;

14 a second static sealing element, the second static sealing element being disposed
15 within a second gap provided between the second collar and the second thrust plate;

16 a drive plate mounting element which connects the drive plate to the drive
17 element; and

18 a stationary plate mounting element which connects the stationary plate to the
19 stationary element;

A3 20 wherein the first and second thrust plates further comprise graphite, and wherein
21 the force of the bellows causes the first bearing surface of the sealing assembly to bear
22 on the bearing surface of the drive plate forming a first dynamic seal comprising a first
23 sealing and lubricating graphite layer, and the force of the bellows causes the second
24 bearing surface of the sealing assembly to bear on the bearing surface of the stationary
25 plate forming a second dynamic seal comprising a second sealing and lubricating graphite
26 layer.

Please add a new claim 17 as follows:

A4 1 17. (New) A sealing system for a rotating machine having a stationary element
2 and a drive element rotationally connected to said stationary element, the sealing system
3 comprising:
4 a plate comprising a bearing surface, the plate being connected to one of said
5 drive element and said stationary element; and
6 a sealing assembly comprising a resilient bellows and a bearing surface, the
7 bellows being a unitary element and providing a force which causes the bearing surface
8 of the sealing assembly to bear on the bearing surface of the plate to form a dynamic seal.